

The liberal media? I don't think so. When did you last see a media outlet owned by a poor person? And when do you think you will see one? Media which offers any critique of the Republican agenda is tarred as "liberal," and has resulted in our national political spectrum being shifted so far to the right as to be unrecognizable to those too young to remember the John Birch Society.

I demand an immediate return to the Fairness in Media doctrine shredded by the Reagan administration and new ownership rules: one company, one media outlet.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.